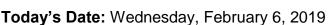
NEWS RELEASE



District: 05 – Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Benito and Santa

Cruz Counties

Contact: Jim Shivers or Colin Jones (805) 549-3237 or 549-3189

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

###UPDATE###

STATE ROUTE 154 REMAINS CLOSED DUE TO BLOCKED CULVERT FOLLOWING WINTER STORM ACTIVITY

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY – State Route 154 remains closed from the Junction with State Route 246 near Santa Ynez to Paradise Road following a series of winter storms which has resulted in a blocked culvert near Lake Cachuma.

Caltrans has initiated an emergency project to clear the opening of this culvert which is approximately 40 feet below the surface which contains water and debris. Caltrans is making progress in removing the water with the use of pumps and cameras to locate the opening of the blocked culvert.

There is no estimate when this section of Highway 154 will re-open. Motorists may use US Highway 101 as a detour. Caltrans engineers and maintenance staff are working to open the highway as soon as possible.

Businesses along Highway 154 including the area near Stagecoach Road remain open.

Caltrans reminds motorists to move over and slow down when driving through highway work zones.

For traffic updates on other state highways in Santa Barbara County, motorists can call Caltrans District 5 Public Affairs at (805) 549-3318 or visit the District 5 website at: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/road_information.htm



